

ANNEX D

SEARCH AND RESCUE

A. PURPOSE

Search and Rescue (SAR) is the employment of resources (private, municipal, corporation, county, State and Federal) to locate and bring to safety persons lost, stranded or trapped. This annex describes the State's system and assigns responsibilities in SAR operations. It deals with three types of search/rescue categories: (1) locating lost persons or civilian aircraft, where this is the sole purpose of the operation, (2) structural explosions or transportation accidents involving SAR, and (3) natural disasters, where search and rescue is an integral part of the overall disaster operations. Other search and rescue missions, such as downed military and commercial air carriers, will be under the operational control of the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC), Langley Air Force Base, Virginia.

B. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

1. Category 1 - Operations:

a. Operations involving lost aircraft are accomplished in accordance with the West Virginia Civil Air Patrol's SAR plans and the National Search and Rescue Plan. State and local government organizations may be requested to assist in the operations; however, overall direction of the operation is by the WV Office of Emergency Services (WVOES) in coordination with the US Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) and the US Coast Guard.

b. Operations involving lost persons will be under the direction of local government, generally the County Sheriff, and employ local resources, except that such operations on State property, i.e., parks, forests and non-navigable waterways, will be under the direction of the appropriate state agency.

c. Requests for State assistance may be required in either case.

2. Category 2 - Operations:

Operations are directed and accomplished by local government utilizing local resources supplemented by support from the owner/transportation company concerned. State assistance may be provided upon request.

3. Category 3 - Operations:

- a. Local governments utilize all available resources.
 - b. State and/or Federal resources are required in areas that are more seriously affected.
 - c. When a large multi-county area is involved, priorities of commitment for State resources of SAR manpower and equipment are established through the State EOC.
 - d. When State resources are utilized, assignment is on a mission-to-mission basis to the maximum extent possible.
- e. Local resources remain under local control.
 - f. Overall coordination of SAR operations within a county are performed by the local government, except when:
 - (1) The local government requests the State to perform the coordination function.
 - (2) The Governor directs State coordination of SAR operations in a multi-county area due to the magnitude and severity of the situation.

C. TASK ASSIGNMENTS

1. State

- a. State Police:

Provides assistance for ground and air search and rescue operations for the state.
- b. Division of Natural Resources:

Provides assistance for ground, air and water search and rescue operations for the state.
- c. Office of Emergency Services:
 - (1) Provides coordination of all State agencies--SAR activities.
 - (2) Receives local requests for State and Federal SAR assistance.
 - (3) Requests SAR assistance as required from any State agency.

d. Adjutant General:

When activated by the Governor, provides SAR assistance for ground, water and air operations through the Air and Army National Guard.

e. Department of Administration/Aviation Division/Fleet Management:

Provides air and ground transportation in support of SAR operations for the State.

f. All other State agencies/departments/divisions: Provide assistance as required in SAR operations when requested to do so by the Office of Emergency Services.

2. Volunteer

- (a) West Virginia Civil Air Patrol - Prepares plans and procedures to accomplish air and ground SAR missions for the State in accordance with existing agreements.
- (b) Volunteer K-9 groups use of tracking dogs, if needed.
- (c) Other volunteer search and rescue organizations, as needed.

3. Federal

Conducts SAR activities as outlined in the National Search and Rescue plan.

D. AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES

- 1. PL 93-288, Section 305, Emergency Assistance, and Section 306 Cooperation of Federal Agencies in Rendering Disaster Assistance National Search and Rescue Plan
- 2. West Virginia Code, Chapter 15, Article 5, as amended
- 3. Joint Agreement between West Virginia Wing, Civil Air Patrol and the West Virginia Office of Emergency Services
- 4. Search and Rescue Agreement between the State of West Virginia and the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC)
- 5. Memorandum of Understanding between the Director, WVOES and Commander (AFRCC) Langley AFB, Virginia

E. DEFINITIONS

Search and Rescue Categories:

- Category 1: Lost persons(s)/aircraft. This type of situation may involve any number of searchers over a large area, but the important distinction is that the lost/missing persons(s) or aircraft are the sole reason for the emergency. This SAR operation is, in and of itself, the emergency rather than a function in a more widespread emergency situation.
- Category 2: Structural explosions/transportation accidents. This type of situation may involve a large number of searchers, but the important distinction is that the SAR operation is a function of the emergency rather than the emergency itself. It is important to note that the search is usually restricted to a limited area under the direction of local government response forces.
- Category 3: Widespread disaster (major flood, tornadoes). This type of situation utilizes a large number of searchers and its important distinction is that the SAR operation is a function of the emergency wherein a large number of people are being searched for over a large area.

Civil Air Patrol (CAP):

Corporation created by Federal statute and established by law as a voluntary, civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force with the major task of performing search and rescue missions.

National Search and Rescue Plan:

A Plan designating Federal agency responsibilities for search and rescue operations. The plan places coordination responsibilities for inland SAR with the U.S. Air Force and for navigable waters search and rescue with the U.S. Coast Guard while recognizing the desires of State and local governments to direct and control their own rescue operations resulting from local and intrastate emergencies.

SAR PROCEDURES

1. The procedures and responsibility for Search and Rescue (SAR) Missions are outlined in the following three parts:

Part One - Responsibilities

Part Two - Alerting, Conducting and Reporting

Part Three - Information and Legal Aspects

2. Definitions

AFRCC - Air Force Rescue and Coordination Center (Langley AFB, VA)

Control - Overall planning, coordination and control of SAR missions

Assist - Assistance to controlling agency of SAR mission

SMC - SAR Mission Coordinator

PART 1 - RESPONSIBILITIES: The overall responsibility for the planning, coordination and control for air or ground search and rescue mission will be as indicated by category.

A. Air Search and Rescue

		<u>CONTROL</u>	<u>ASSIST</u>
1.	<u>Military Incidents</u>		
a.	Active Duty Forces - Dept. of Defense and Coast Guard	AFRCC	State
b.	Army Reserve or NG Reserve Forces	AFRCC	State
c.	National Guard Aircraft	AFRCC	State
d.	Foreign Military	AFRCC	State
2.	<u>Civil Incidents</u>		
a.	Intrastate	State	AFRCC
b.	Interstate	AFRCC	State
3.	<u>Scheduled Air Carriers</u>	AFRCC	State

Supplemental or Charter; Domestic
and International; U.S. or Foreign

Registry

4.	<u>SAR Missions of National Importance</u>	AFRCC	State
	Involving People, Aerospace Aircraft/Vehicles or Hardware		
5.	<u>Civil Air Patrol Incidents</u>		
a.	Classified as General Aviation when not operating under Air Force authority	State	AFRCC
b.	When a missing CAP aircraft becomes the object of search while participating in SAR activities under AFRCC control	AFRCC	State
c.	When a missing CAP aircraft becomes the object of search while participating in SAR activities under State control	State	AFRCC
B.	<u>Ground Search and Rescue</u>		
1.	Aircraft incidents - normally the agency having responsibility for control of air search and rescue on a particular mission has the responsibility of coordinating ground search and rescue efforts associated with the mission.	County/State	AFRCC
2.	Persons lost or in distress - responsibilities are normally assumed by county, state or federal agencies in areas under their jurisdiction. Air Search Assistance	County/ State Federal County	State/ AFRCC State/ AFRCC

PART II - ALERTING, CONDUCTING, AND REPORTING

A. ALERTING

1. Air Incidents

- a. AFRCC receives FAA Flight Service Station/Air Route Traffic control Information Requests (INREQ) and Alert Notices (ALNOT) via teletype circuit.
- b. Division of Aeronautics (DOA) receives INREQ/ALNOT direct from FAA.
- c. Alerting may be received from other air or ground sources, i.e., National Warning Center, Law Enforcement, etc.
- d. On receipt of an INREQ or like notice of a possible air incident, immediate coordination is not required unless either agency has reason to believe that INREQ or like notice contains implications that are imminent.
- e. On receipt of an ALNOT or like notice, coordination action will be taken.

DOA and AFRCC will coordinate to determine who will "control" and "assist." If a mission is opened, DOA and AFRCC will assign a mission number.

2. Ground Incidents

- a. AFRCC normally receives alert from agency having jurisdiction in area (local, State or Federal).
- b. State SAR Coordinator will contact AFRCC if assistance is requested.

B. CONDUCTING - During the conduct of a SAR mission, it is essential that there be a close interchange of mission information and requirements between agencies and the AFRCC, regardless of who has mission control responsibilities. Such information and requirements should include but not be limited to:

1. Mission Numbering

- a. AFRCC mission numbers assigned consecutively throughout calendar year, prefixed with CAP region number.
- b. Missions controlled by State. Numbering is required by the State.

2. Mission Logging

AFRCC maintains an official log of all SAR activity associated with an AFRCC mission.

3. SAR Mission Coordination/Control -

Each SAR mission must have an SAR Mission Coordinator (SMC); either a designated official of the AFRCC, Civil Air Patrol, State or some other agency in a better position to coordinate and control a particular SAR mission.

- a. On-Scene Commander (OSC) - is subordinate to the SMC and is designated by the SMC, or AFRCC when providing forces to assist.
- b. When military or Civil Air Patrol forces are provided to assist in a SAR mission, the unit commander will retain command control of his forces; however, consistent with its capability, the force will be employed in search areas designated by the SMC.
- c. Where practical, State and Federal units may utilize joint facilities at a forward base.

C. REPORTING

- 1. By directive, AFRCC is required to submit opening, progress and closing/suspending reports to higher headquarters on all agencies participating in SAR missions.
- 2. When the State provides forces to assist on missions controlled by the AFRCC, it is essential that the following information be reported by telephone to AFRCC at the end of each mission day.
 - a. Number of aircraft and/or persons used.
 - b. Total sorties and flying hours.
 - c. Areas searched by grids/square miles.
 - d. Estimated effectiveness.
 - e. Number of aircraft or forces estimated to be available the next day.
- 3. Similarly, AFRCC will provide the State controlling agency like information when the AFRCC is providing assisting forces.

PART III - INFORMATION AND LEGAL ASPECTS

A. Public Information

- 1. The controlling agency will have primary responsibility for:
 - a. Insuring that news media within or adjacent to the search area have been requested to utilize their facilities to solicit search information from the general public that may assist in locating the SAR objective.
 - b. Being the focal point for release of overall mission progress information, to include the identification of all participating SAR forces.

- c. Providing the assisting agency the essentials of mission statements that have been released to the news media.
 - d. Taking every possible action to relieve the on-scene commander of the news media pressure that will invariably be applied locally because of the "Humanitarian Interest" aspects of SAR mission. In this respect, either provide an overall mission statement for release or attempt to have news media queries referred to the controlling agency.
- 2. Assisting agencies will respond to news media queries under the general guidance of mission statement releases provided by the controlling agency.
- 3. News media releases by participating forces which identify local SAR personnel who are involved in a portion of the SAR mission are encouraged, provided the essentials of the overall mission statement releases of the controlling agency are included.
- 4. A possibility exists that on a classified military SAR mission, the participation by non-military SAR forces may be requested and required. In this case, the assisting SAR forces will be requested to refer all news media queries to the AFRCC.

B. Notification of Kin

- 1. Although the controlling agency does not have specific responsibilities in this matter, experience has proven that they do get involved and there can be many ramifications, particularly in general aviation type incidents.
- 2. In a majority of general aviation incidents, contact with the kin by the controlling agency has been made during the ALNOT and early stages of the distress phases to obtain information that may assist in SAR operations. Conversely, the controlling agency may have received the first SAR alert from the kin.
- 3. Therefore, as a moral obligation, the controlling agency should:
 - a. Make every effort to notify and keep the kin apprised of the progress of the SAR mission when contact has been made either prior or subsequent to opening the SAR mission. When one or more families are involved, it is helpful at the outset for the controlling agency to establish a single point of contact.

- b. Insure, insofar as possible, that when the SAR objective is found and deceased are involved, the appropriate law enforcement agency or coroner's office have taken action for notification of kin.

C. Recovery of Human Remains

1. The remains of military personnel, or civilians employed by the military, shall be removed only upon approval of a medical officer. In the absence of a medical officer at the crash site, approval will be obtained through the military chain-of-command.
2. The remains of other civilian personnel will be removed in accordance with applicable laws of the area. Authority for removal can usually be obtained through the police authority for the area. The CAP may be called upon for this mission.

D. Security and Marking of Aircraft Wreckage

1. Since all aircraft accidents are subject to military and/or CAP/FAA investigations, every reasonable effort should be made by the controlling agency to identify a ground agency who will accept responsibility for security of the wreckage until an investigation team arrives on the scene.
2. For military aircraft wreckage that is not removed from the scene, it is incumbent upon the nearest military installation to properly mark the wreckage. Disposition of aircraft will be handled by appropriate channels. A Class A accident will activate the investigation Aviation Safety Team, Fort Rucker, Alabama.

ANNEX D
APPENDIX 1

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
WEST VIRGINIA WING-CIVIL AIR PATROL
AND
WEST VIRGINIA OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

The following agreement, jointly prepared by the West Virginia Wing-Civil Air Patrol and the West Virginia Office of Emergency Services, establishes capabilities of the Civil Air Patrol that are available to support the Emergency Services program during emergency operations. The objectives of this agreement are to provide a basis for planning, to cause effective coordination and cooperation between both parties, and to alleviate any misunderstanding, confusion or duplication of effort in support of emergency operations.

1. The Civil Air Patrol (CAP), as a civilian, noncombatant, auxiliary of the United States Air Force (USAF), agrees to employ its facilities, personnel and equipment in accomplishing support functions, within their capability, to the State Office of Emergency Services program. CAP resources may be used to assist the USAF in fulfilling its authorized responsibility in domestic emergencies, disaster relief missions and State emergency operations. (USAFR 46-5).
 - a. One of the purposes of the Civil Air Patrol, as outlined by an Act of Congress, is to provide an organization of private citizens with adequate facilities to assist in meeting local, State and National emergencies.
 - b. Cooperation between the West Virginia Wing-Civil Air Patrol and the West Virginia Office of Emergency Services is within the powers and duties of these organizations to insure that the preparation of the State will be adequate to deal with man-made and natural disasters.
 - c. During or under the imminent threat of an emergency and upon the request of the Director, West Virginia Office of Emergency Services, the West Virginia Wing-Civil Air Patrol will employ its facilities, personnel, and equipment to support the rescue and recovery effort consistent with its other missions as a volunteer civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force. The manner in which Civil Air Patrol personnel, property, and equipment will be utilized as organized units in local Emergency Services organizations will be determined by the Commander of the West Virginia Wing-Civil Air Patrol.
 - d. The provisions of Chapter 15, Article 5, Section 11 of the West Virginia Code shall be extended to members of the Civil Air Patrol while operating under the terms of this agreement. This Section defines the Immunities and exemptions of duly qualified Emergency Services workers.
1. The West Virginia Wing-Civil Air Patrol is organized in units similar to the lines of

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command of the USAF. There are different types and size units located in various counties throughout the State. These units may, with proper authorization, assist the State Office of Emergency Services during emergencies and units may be moved to any location within the State. The control of all CAP units and its personnel will remain the responsibility of the West Virginia Wing CAP Commander.

2. All CAP members operating in an approved USAF mission are entitled to benefits under the Employees Compensation Act. Therefore, USAF approval must be obtained for CAP participation in missions requested by the West Virginia Office of Emergency (AFM 355-1a, Chapter 12). There are no State or Federal funds to reimburse CAP personnel supporting Office of Emergency Services activities, without USAF mission authorization.
3. To promote mutual understanding and support, the Commander, West Virginia Wing-Civil Air Patrol will appoint a mission coordinator to coordinate the functions of CAP personnel and equipment. The mission coordinator will be responsible for keeping the Office of Emergency Services informed of the current status of CAP personnel and equipment, its location and an estimate of its operational effectiveness.
4. In order to ensure the most effective utilization of manpower and equipment, this agreement extends to all administrative and command levels of the West Virginia Wing-Civil Air Patrol and the West Virginia Office of Emergency Services.
5. The West Virginia Wing-Civil Air Patrol is authorized to support the following activities as a result of pre-attack or other man-made, or natural disasters; whether real, or simulated for training purposes:
 - a. Aerial surveillance of traffic and surface routes.
 - b. Aerial courier and messenger service.
 - c. Light transport flights for movement of emergency personnel and supplies to include transportation of whole blood and packed blood parts.
 - d. Aerial reconnaissance and photographic flights for damage assessment conducted in accordance with procedures and criteria established by the Office of Emergency Services, FAA and USAF.
 - e. Provide communications facilities, fixed, mobile and airborne.
 - f. Provide air and land search and rescue.
 - g. Provide portable emergency power generators.
6. The West Virginia Office of Emergency Services will support the following joint CAP and WVOES activities:

- a. Provide qualified instructors and training materials to train CAP personnel in needed emergency services skills reasonably convenient to the home base of each CAP unit.
 - b. Assist CAP in USAF authorized air search and rescue missions when State and local (County) Office of Emergency Services units have capability to provide:
 - (1) Additional means of communications, transportation, and personnel, and coordinate the use of such, when available from other State departments or agencies supporting the State Office of Emergency Services.
 - (2) Local guides for ground rescue teams.
 - (3) Assist in evacuation of crash victims to proper medical attention as required.
 - (4) Coordinate with local officials (rescue squads, sheriff, police, coroner, etc.) as required.
7. When a Search and Rescue Mission is requested by the Office of Emergency Services, the OES representative will contact the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia and request CAP assistance. For Disaster Relief missions, the OES representative will contact the Air Force National Security Emergency Preparedness Center (AFNSEP), Fort McPherson, Georgia.
8. Civil Air Patrol will be responsible for obtaining USAF authorization for tests and exercises.
9. Subordinate units of the West Virginia Wing-Civil Air Patrol will support local Office of Emergency Services organizations as a unit with specific Office of Emergency Services functions as primarily outlined in Paragraph 6, above. During an Emergency Services operation, actual or simulated, the Office of Emergency Services organization will present or define the operational functions needed from CAP. Subordinate units of the West Virginia Wing-Civil Air Patrol will participate in the activity as a unit, and will serve under their Unit Commanders or otherwise as determined by the Civil Air Patrol Mission Coordinator or the Civil Air Patrol Wing Commander.
10. Civil Air Patrol members voluntarily participating in emergency services as individuals will serve under the direction of the County of Emergency Services. They will have a current CAPF 101 (Emergency Services Qualification Card) issued by Civil Air Patrol National Headquarters and will be in proper CAP uniform.
11. State and locally owned Office of Emergency Services property, equipment and supplies may be loaned and/or issued to CAP units on a memorandum receipt. Title to such will be retained by the Office of Emergency Services. An Office of Emergency Services decal must be affixed to the property and equipment in accordance with regulations by

the Office of Emergency Services. Property, equipment, and supplies will be used and/or operated in accordance with verbal or written agreements executed at the time issued or loaned to CAP units. CAP units will be responsible to the Office of Emergency Services units for items which they have signed a memorandum receipt.

12. This Memorandum of Understanding supersedes any other agreement or understanding between the West Virginia Wing-Civil Air Patrol and the West Virginia Office of Emergency Services.

Bobby R. Anderson, Commander,
West Virginia Wing-Civil Air Patrol

John W. Pack
Jr., Director
West Virginia Office
of Emergency Services

DATE

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ANNEX D
APPENDIX 2

SEARCH AND RESCUE AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
AND
THE EXECUTIVE AGENT FOR INLAND SAR
IN SUPPORT OF
THE NATIONAL SEARCH AND RESCUE PLAN

1. Purpose: To insure the effective use of all available facilities for Search and Rescue (SAR) activities, to incorporate state SAR agencies into the basic SAR network; and to provide an avenue for further agreements between Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) and the State of West Virginia Office of Emergency Services (WVOES).
2. Scope: This agreement is the basis for mutual coordination and cooperation for direction of SAR operations by the State of West Virginia and the AFRCC.
3. Roles and Responsibilities:
 - a. The National Search and Rescue Plan designates the United States Air Force as the federal agency responsible for coordination of search and rescue within the Continental United States (Inland SAR Region), except navigable waterways. The U.S. Coast Guard has specific statutory authority and responsibility for SAR operations on, over and under navigable waterways subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.
 - b. The Chief of Staff of the United States Air Force has designated the Commander, Air Combat Command, as the Executive Agent to implement the National SAR Plan in the United States. This established the AFRCC to act as the SAR Coordinator for the inland area. Therefore, the AFRCC, located at Langley AFB, Virginia, is the agency responsible for coordinating federal SAR activities in the inland area.
 - c. The Civil Air Patrol (CAP) is a corporation created by federal statute and is established by law as the auxiliary of the United States Air Force. The prosecution of search and rescue missions for the Air Force is one of the tasks performed by the CAP.
 - d. The West Virginia Office of Emergency Services (WVOES) shall be the state agency for coordinating all searches with the AFRCC, county sheriffs, other law enforcement agencies, or any private or public search and rescue group. The West Virginia Wing - CAP is the organization responsible for missing aircraft searches within the State of West Virginia. The sheriff's department within each county is the responsible agency for missing persons searches within the State of West Virginia.

- e. This agreement provides for federal assistance to local or state agencies conducting SAR missions. Also, state agencies, when possible, will provide assistance to the AFRCC. Provisions of assistance provided by both parties will be subject to availability of facilities at the time of the request.
- 4. Agreements: This agreement addresses two types of SAR incidents: civil incidents and non-civil incidents.
 - a. Civil SAR Incidents:
 - (1) A Civil SAR incident is defined as a search and rescue mission to aid distressed civilian persons when such events occur within the boundaries of the State of West Virginia except as noted in paragraph 4b.
 - (2) All civil incidents will normally be under the operational control of the West Virginia Office of Emergency Services; however, this will not preclude the state from requesting that the AFRCC assume operational control.
 - (3) The AFRCC will be contacted if federal assistance, to include CAP, is desired by the state. The West Virginia Office of Emergency Services will inform the AFRCC of the status and termination of searches.
 - b. Non-Civil SAR incidents:
 - (1) Non-civil SAR incidents are defined as those incidents involving scheduled air carriers, aircraft operating under the provisions of the International Civil Aviation Organization agreements, aircraft on interstate flights, missions of national concern, and missions involving military personnel as the objective.
 - (2) All non-civil SAR incidents will be under the operational control of the AFRCC. The State of West Virginia may be requested to assist the AFRCC on non-civil SAR incidents on that portion of the search conducted within the state borders.
 - (3) The AFRCC will notify the West Virginia Office of Emergency Services prior to initiating any active search within West Virginia. A determination will be made at that time as to the assistance the state may provide and which agency has operational control. The AFRCC will keep the State of West Virginia informed on the status and/or termination of a search.
- 5. General:

- a. Implementation of this agreement will be by memorandum of understanding between the state agencies having designated responsibilities under this agreement and the ARRS Director of Inland SAR. Such memoranda of understanding will provide for specific mission procedures, channels of communications, points of contact, etc. The memorandum of understanding may be revised as frequently as necessary without requiring a revision of this agreement, so long as responsibilities as outlined herein do not change.
- b. This agreement does not encompass SAR for such activities as: emergencies affecting public welfare occurring as a result of civil disturbances, public disasters or equivalent emergencies which endanger life and property or disrupt the usual process of government. However, the SAR organization and its facilities may be used to the maximum extent feasible for direct SAR in connection with the above activities.
- c. Direct or indirect expenses incurred by facilities pursuant to this agreement will be borne by the organization or agency that provides the resource. Federally appropriated funds may not be used to reimburse expenses incurred by individuals except to members of the CAP as authorized by applicable USAF regulations.
- d. No provision of this agreement is to be construed as an obstruction to prompt and effective action by federal, state or local SAR officials to relieve distress wherever and whenever found.
- e. Press releases will be made by the organization or its designated representative exercising operational control over the mission.
- f. This agreement shall become effective upon the date of final signatures and will remain in effect unless modified by mutual written agreement or terminated by either party with 60-day advanced written notice.

David F. MacGhee, Jr.
Major General, USAF
Executive Agent, Inland SAR

DATE

Cecil H. Underwood
Governor
State of West Virginia

DATE

ANNEX D
APPENDIX 3

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE DIRECTOR,
WEST VIRGINIA OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
AND
COMMANDER,
AIR FORCE RESCUE COORDINATION CENTER
LANGLEY AFB, VIRGINIA

1. PURPOSE: To further delineate the operational procedures pursuant to the Search and Rescue (SAR) Agreement dated _____, between the State of West Virginia and the Executive Agent for Inland SAR. The procedures outlined below are intended for use within the geographical boundaries of the State of West Virginia. On incidents or missions involving interstate flights or missions of national concern, the general procedures outlined in the basic SAR agreement will apply.
2. DEFINITIONS: To insure a common terminology is understood by both parties, the following definitions are provided:
 - a. INCIDENT – A notification of any source of a possible distress situation.
 - b. MISSION – Those incidents which require the activation of federal air or ground assets and the expenditure of federal funds.
 - c. SEARCH FOR MISSING AIRCRAFT – Searches for persons missing in an aircraft believed to be in distress.
 - d. SEARCH FOR MISSING PERSONS – Searches for persons believed to be in a distress situation not involving an aircraft.
 - e. RESPONSIBLE AGENCY – The Federal or State Agency with overall responsibility to coordinate the search effort regardless of assets being used.
 - f. RESCUE/MEDEVAC/MERCY MISSION – Recovering, medical evacuation, or moving donor organs, blood, SAR dogs to assist in the time critical saving of life or limb.
 - g. COORDINATE – The mutual agreement between two or more agencies as to the actions taken.
 - h. ADVISE/NOTIFY – The communication of actions which have been or will be taken regardless of concurrence.

- i. FEDERAL ASSETS – Those SAR capable resources belonging to the Federal government.
- j. CIVIL AIR PATROL AUTHORIZATION – When mission participation is authorized by the AFRCC, CAP becomes a federal asset. Notification to CAP must be made by the AFRCC.

3. PROCEDURES:

<u>TYPE MISSION/INCIDENT</u>	<u>RESPONSIBLE AGENCY</u>	<u>PROCEDURES</u>
Missing Aircraft	WVOES	WVOES will request Federal assistance through AFRCC
Missing Person	Sheriff	The AFRCC will coordinate all Federal asset requests (including CAP) through WVOES as the state agency acting for the county sheriff
Alert Notices (ALNOT)	AFRCC	The AFRCC will accomplish the required extensive communications check on all alert notices and will coordinate with WVOES prior to mission opening
Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT)	AFRCC	The AFRCC will, in coordination with the FAA, accomplish a communications check and will coordinate with WVOES prior to mission opening
National Warning System (NAWAS)	-	No restrictions within the State

Rescue/Medevac/Mercy	AFRCC	The AFRCC will receive request from appropriate agency, advise WVOES if required, and then locate and request appropriate resource to accomplish mission. NOTE: Mission will be prosecuted only if state or civilian resource is not available. Financial constraints is not an acceptable reason to use civilian resources
PLB (Personal Locator Beacon)	AFRCC	The AFRCC will alert the WVOES. The AFRCC will coordinate all Federal assets (including CAP) upon request from WVOES if needed

4. Points of Contact:

<u>STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY</u>	<u>AV/FTS</u>	<u>COMM</u>
WV Office of Emergency Services (WVOES)		304-558-5380
Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC)	AV 574-8112	757-764-8112 800-851-3051

5. This MOU is implemented as of the date of the last signature and will remain valid only by mutual agreement of the parties. Changes to the MOU may be made by telephonic coordination but must be followed up immediately by written correspondence.

6. SIGNATURES

MARK C. PERKINS, Lt., USAF
Commander, AFRCC

DATE

JOHN W. PACK, JR.
Director, West Virginia Office of
Emergency Services

DATE